



March 29, 1979  
NUMBER '1000 .3

## Department of Defense Directive <sup>ASD(MRA&L)</sup>

SUBJECT : Safety and Occupational Health Policy for the Department of Defense

References: (a) DoD Directive 1000.3, "Accident Prevention, Safety, and Occupational Health Policy for the Department of Defense, June 15, 1976 (hereby canceled)  
(b) DoD Instruction 7041.3, "Economic Analysis and Program Evaluation for Resource Management, " October 18, 1972

### A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive (1) reissues reference (a) to update established policy and guidance for the prevention of mishaps throughout the Department of Defense; (2) redefines its scope; (3) assigns broad responsibilities to strengthen defense readiness through such prevention; and (4) provides for implementation within DoD of applicable public laws, executive orders, and Government regulations concerning safety and occupational health (SOH) .

### B. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

1. The provisions of this Directive apply to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Defense Agencies, and the Unified and Specified Commands (hereafter referred to as "DoD Components"). For the purpose of this **Directive**, the Army-Air Force Exchange Service is considered a DoD Component.

2. Its provisions establish the basis for all DoD safety fire protection, and occupational health programs. Specifically, it encompasses but is not necessarily limited to:

a. DoD safety programs in the fields of military operations and training; industrial and logistic operations (including the production, handling, and storage of explosives and chemical agents); research, development, and testing; retail sales; DoD property disposal; motor vehical operation; fire protection; and recreational activities; and

b. DoD programs for industrial hygiene, radiological health, and the preventive aspects of occupational medicine.

c. POLICY

Comprehensive programs shall be implemented within the Department of Defense to:

1. Protect DoD personnel from accidental death, injury, or **occupational** illness;
2. Protect DoD weapon systems, equipment, materiel, and facilities from accidental destruction or damage;
3. Protect the public from death, injury, illness, or property damage **as a result** of DoD operations;
4. Comply with applicable safety and occupational or environmental health regulations which Federal or State regulatory agencies promulgate, and
5. Prescribe and enforce standards or regulations applicable to those functions for which DoD has statutory authority over safety and occupational health matters.

D. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) (**ASD(MRA&L)**) shall:

- a. Advise the Secretary of Defense on SOH matters and act as the principal official responsible to assure implementation of the foregoing policy.
- b. Provide supplemental policy and guidance to DoD Components and **issue** DoD instructions as necessary to implement SOH programs.
- c. Coordinate policy and guidance with other principal assistants to the Secretary of Defense and with the Chairman **of** the Joint Chiefs of Staff when such policy or guidance affects their functional areas .
- d. Provide for coordination and cooperation between the Department of Defense and other Government agencies with SOH regulatory responsibilities. In this regard, ensure appropriate DoD participation in the development of SOH standards that such agencies promulgate.
- e. Ensure inclusion of SOH programs, as necessary, in DoD programing and budget guidance.
- f. Establish a DoD management information system to identify and quantify SOH problems and trends.

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g. Provide the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USDR&E) with recommendations for SOH research.

h. In coordination with the USDR&E, assure the application of system safety engineering principles, as well as appropriate SOH standards, in the acquisition and life cycle support of DoD weapon systems, equipment, material, and facilities.

i. Review, analyze, and evaluate DoD Component SOH programs for effectiveness, both in cost and resources management, in compliance with DoD Instruction 7041.3 (reference (b)).

j. Establish a DoD Safety and Occupational Health Council, consisting of the designated SOH officials of DoD Components, or their designees; the Chairman of the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board; and representatives of appropriate offices within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. This council shall meet regularly to review program progress, problem areas, goals and objectives.

2. Other principal staff assistants to the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that all SOH related matters which affect this policy are coordinated with the ASD(MRA&L).

3. Heads of DoD Components, except the JCS, shall:

a. Designate a senior official to have overall responsibility for implementation of the policy set forth herein. Within the **Military** Department, this official shall be at the assistant secretary level.

b. Implement SOH programs to support the general policy set forth in section C., subject to any supplemental policy and guidance that the ASD(MRA&L) issues pursuant to section D.

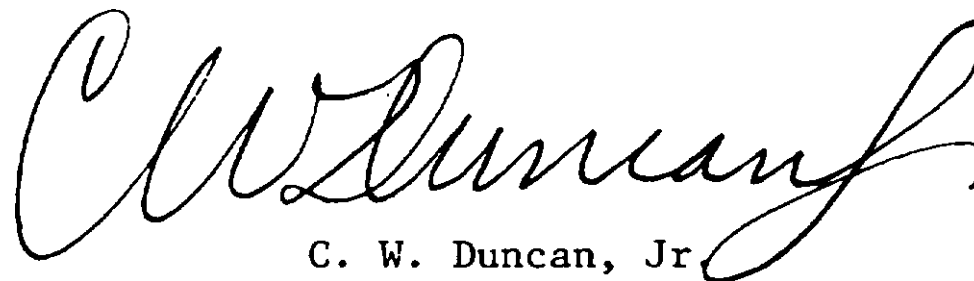
c. Provide professionally qualified SOH staff sufficient to ensure effective implementation of such programs at all organizational levels.

d. Establish procedures to evaluate the effectiveness of SOH programs, identify significant problem areas, and set priorities for corrective actions.

e. Keep the ASD(MRA&L) informed of the status of SOH programs.

E. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately. DoD Components shall provide the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) with the name and title of the health official who will implement this Directive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. W. Duncan, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

C. W. Duncan, Jr  
Deputy Secretary of Defense